"THE FRIENDLY BEASTS"

Jesus, our brother, strong and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around him stood:
Jesus, our brother, strong and good.
—Robert Davis

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CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

DECEMBER 1953

MISS BLOOMER ON TOUR

Miss Pauline Bloomer, Associate in Christian Education, will leave Topeka January first to join a party in New York for a tour of our Mission stations in Puerto Rico. The Tour is being sponsored by the American Missionary Association under the direction of the Rev. Howard E. Spragg. Leaving New York by air the morning of January 4, the party is scheduled to arrive at San Juan in Puerto Rico at 6 A.M., the fifth. Headquarters during most of the stay will be at Ryder Memorial Hospital at Humacao. The ten day stay includes seeing mission stations and places of interest at Las Piedros, Yuquiyu, Ponce, the Virgin Islands, and other centers. Scheduled on January 6 is a three hour swimming party at Luquillo Beach.

Arriving back in New York on January 15, Miss Bloomer plans to visit the United Nations and other places of interest in and around New York City. She will attend the meeting of Christian Education leaders held in connection with the Mid-Winter Meetings at Cleveland, Ohio, January 20-23, before returning to Topeka.

MISFORTUNE IN BUNCHES

Our Kansas fellowship has been shocked and saddened to learn that our friend the Rev. Vernon Benson of Anthony is enduring additional pain and suffering. On November 5th he lost his balance and fell, breaking his left hip. He had been studying Braille for a couple of hours and arose to turn on the radio for the ten o'clock news when the accident occured. For the first ten days at Galloway Hospital in Anthony, he was in very critical condition, but reports as we go to press are more encouraging.

Mrs. Benson writes that the people at Anthony have been wonderful beyond words to express. Sunday services have been taken by Mr. John Billings, principal of the High School, Mrs. W. L. Hutchinson, a lay woman, Mr. Albert Faurot, Missionary of Music and Supt. L. M. Rymph. Already Mr. Benson is making plans to be back in his pulpit as soon as he is able to get around in a wheel chair. An article which he had previously promised for this issue of Congregational Kansas came thru on schedule, dictated from his hospital bed. Feel the urgency of his message on page six; pray that he may be given strength to bear his suffering and loss.

* * *

Additions Loan Fund Honor Roll

Eureka	$900.00
Little River	500.00
Maize	400.00

* * *

"Newspaper editor Horace Greeley received a letter from a church member asking his advice to keep her struggling church from disbanding. They'd tried box socials, mock weddings, grab-bag parties and lawn fetes. Could Mr. Greeley suggest some other device? The editor wrote a simple two word answer: 'Try religion'".

—Chicago Cong'l News

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

Vol. 15 **No. 10**

Entered as second class matter at Topeka, Kansas, April 12, 1951. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917 authorized January 11, 1923. Issued monthly except July and August at Topeka, Kansas by the Kansas Congregational and Christian Conference.

Editorial and Executive Offices
923 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas
Editors
Supt. and Mrs. L. M. Rymph
Club rate — 50 cents
Single subscription — 75 cents

Christmas Means "Yes"

By Julian B. Johnson

All of us want to hear the word "Yes." The bad news we read and hear daily says "No" to our highest hopes and sincerest desires. Is it any wonder that we welcome the Good News of Christmas? Paul, in his letter to the Church at Corinth, stressed the positive note of the Gospel. "For all the promises of God find their 'yes' in Him." He went on to add that we can now say "Yes" through Christ.

Christmas is God's way of saying "Yes" when the world is saying 'No." Greed and hate, fear and suspicion, ignorance and carelessness, all mean "No." When Dickens portrayed the character of old Scrooge, he wrote "No" across his face. No beggar on the street begged bread of Scrooge, for the answer was known before the asking. No child asked Scrooge the time of day, for children do not accept "No" for an answer. Neither man nor woman asked him the direction, for it was hard to believe that Scrooge knew the way. All his life Scrooge had said "No." He was the opposite of the Christmas Spirit. Not until Christmas Spirit laid hold of him did Scrooge go up and down the street, to the amazement of all, saying "Yes" to every creature.

And so with us. We all have veto power. We can say "No" to the promises of Christmas. We can veto the promises that sin is forgiven, that new life and spiritual growth are possible, and that goodwill and brotherliness are within our reach. We can veto these promises, but not on Christmas. We unite in the child's question, "Why don't we have Christmas every day?" We would keep it wisely not only one day, but we would keep it for the whole year.

Christmas can mean "Yes" to you personally. Are you at odds with yourself and your neighbor? Christmas enables us to get even (in the right way) with ourselves and our neighbors. We can say "Yes" to ourselves and our neighbors. Has not Christmas been called the Festival of Reconciliation? Are you defeated? Christmas promises personal victory.

The last two Christmases I have spent with Korean children. They sang our familiar Christmas carols. They also sang what may well be a Christmas song, "This Is My Father's World." In devastated Korea they could sing, "My Father's World." Family and friends were separated, possessions were gone, but a faith was kept. And victory was theirs. It was a delight, but no surprise, to hear the soldier comment, after he had heard the music, "This is the only Christmas I will have."

God says "Yes" on Christmas Day and our hearts are filled with joy. They are joyful because we too say "Yes" to God and therefore "Yes" to ourselves and to our neighbor. Christmas means "Yes."

Pastoral Changes

Malcolm White's to Kinsley-Garfield Parish

The Rev. and Mrs. Malcolm White with their five children, Nancy, Barbara, Vernon, Rebecca and Chris will move to Kinsley from Sabetha, January 1st. Malcolm and Phyllis White have not only carried on a consistent constructive program of work in Sabetha, but they have been most generous in giving time to other churches and the conference in interpreting the work of the American Board. Prior to coming to Sabetha, the White's were missionaries in China. Immediately after graduation at Union Seminary, Mr. White did Home Missionary work in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida. We join with Sabetha friends in their sense of loss, but rejoice with Kinsley and Garfield that they have called this fine couple to lead them in their forward looking program.

Leave of Absence

Dr. Walter H. Upton, minister of Plymouth Church, Wichita announced Sunday, November 16 he would be taking a leave of absence from his church duties for three months. He left by plane November 17 for Boston, Mass., where he had church appointments and conferences. He returned home for Thanksgiving. Later Dr. Upton, his wife and two children returned to the Boston area. In the four years Dr. Upton has served the Plymouth Church as pastor, church attendance increased and 550 new members were received. Also during his pastorate the church erected a $275,000.00 educational building. All Kansas Congregationalists join in wishing the Upton's many years of fruitful ministry in the years ahead.

Interim Minister

On Sunlay morning, December 7, Dr. Robert B. Blythe of Cleveland, Ohio began an "ad interim pastorate" at Wichita Plymouth. Dr. Blythe has served like situations in St. Louis and Toledo. He was vacationing in Canada at the time the call was extended by Plymouth Church.

Christian G. Nelson Retires

Christian G. Nelson has submitted his resignation to the Wakefield Church, effective January 1st. The Nelson's have purchased a home in Norton near their farm and will retire there. Mrs. Nelson has been in poor health for some time. Mr. Nelson will be available for pulpit supply work. Since 1910 the Nelson's have served the following pastorates in Kansas: Lincoln, Oronoque, Athol, Dunning, Smith Center, Kinsley, Garfield, Towanda and Wakefield. No minister in our fellowship has been more devoted to promoting Town and Country Church work than has Mr. Nelson. We are happy to have them retire in Kansas.

George Edward Brown Retires

George Edward Brown of Eureka announces his retirement, effective January 1st to take up residence at his old home at Merriam, Kansas. Although a native Kansan, most of his pastorates have been in the east; serving at Tyngsboro, Mass., King's Highway in Brooklyn, West Medway, Mass., San Mateo, Cal., Lawrence, Mass. He began his pastorate at Eureka in May 1950 and his mature leadership has been greatly appreciated. The Rev. and Mrs. Don Coldsmith, son-in-law and daughter of the Brown's are serving our church at Tonganoxie.

Mr. Albert Faurot
Missionary of Music

Faurot Itinerary

The programs presented by Mr. Faurot, Missionary of Music, at two association meetings met with such eager response that many people asked about getting him back for a block of time. Arrangements were made and he began a Kansas itinerary beginning November 22 and closing December 11. As we go to press the last week's schedule is not completed but he is definitely scheduled in the following churches: Anthony, Wichita Fairmount, Wichita Pilgrim, Wichita Plymouth, Ellis; P.F. Jr. Hi Rally of Russell, Gorham and Ellis; Great Bend, Ford, Garden City, Maple Hill, Topeka Central, Kansas City First Pilgrim and Towanda.

With his outstanding talent as a concert pianist and his gripping message, Mr. Faurot made "Our Christian World Mission" come alive for all who heard him.

Ministers' Convocation

The dates for the 27th Annual Washburn Ministers' Convocation are February 16, 17 and 18. The Rev. George Fisk and his committee are lining up a very worthwhile program. The speaker for the chapel presentations is the Reverend Boynton Merrill, D.D., minister of the First Congregational Church at Columbus, Ohio. In addition to the chapel talks, Mr. Merrill will talk on Tuesday evening and on other occasions.

General theme of the Ministers' sessions to be held in Benton Hall will be "Men for the Ministry." With the help of Dr. Bryan Stoffer of Washburn, Dr. Leroy Wright of Yankton and Dr. Robert Allard of Chicago Theological Seminary, a study will be made of recruiting and education of ministers for Congregational churches.

From our Kansas ranks we will have the Rev. Henry Eden Wright of Great Bend as Chaplain, the Rev. George Fisk of Wichita Fairmount as Moderator and the Rev. S. J. Williams of Emporia, as Treasurer. Rev. Julian B. Johnson of Partridge, recently returned Chaplain of Korea will speak.

The Tuesday night dinner will be held at Topeka First and Wednesday night at Topeka Central. The Central Pilgrim Fellowship young people will present a worship service on Wednesday evening featuring three distinct worship techniques — namely — choric speech, drama and rythmic choir under the leadership of Mrs. George Epps. For the fourteenth year at least two dozen out-of-town ministers will be housed and given breakfast at the Rymph's. This annual gathering features fellowship. All ministers should plan to attend.

"Out of My Night"

By Vernon E. F. Benson

This is being written from a hospital bed. It may be that my friends, in referring to me will soon adopt semi Biblical language and say, "He went to the hospital as his custom has become." Be that as is may, when fortune again placed me here for a probably long hospitalization, my first impulse was to postpone writing the article I had been asked to write for Congregational Kansas. But realizing, as I do, that I have no sure lease on life, even for tomorrow, I have decided to write in the midst of these untoward circumstances.

Many people, among the laity, as well as the clergy have expressed the expectation and belief that persons who have been plunged deep into dark tragedy must assuredly gain profound insights which are not generally available except as one passes through the dark valley of suffering and acquaintance with death. I must admit that certain aspects of my religious insights and beliefs have been sharpened and have become inescapable realities. When one has known great suffering; when one has been shorn of many capacities hitherto considered practically indispensable; when one has walked hand in hand with death and lives constantly as on the very fringe of existence then, one becomes exceedingly in earnest to apprehend reality. Sham, insincerity, hypocrisy become intolerable. The urge for reality becomes the preeminent motif of one's living.

This has tremendous significance for the individual as a Christian. Under this pressure, this urgency for reality, he can not avoid subjecting every aspect of his faith and experience to the severest tests known to him. He must have the courage to cleanse himself of many religious and haphazardly assumed Christian sentiments, beliefs, and assumptions that just simply will not stand the test of the suffering and evil involved in the endurance of actual and irrevocable tragedy.

As a minister of the Gospel, striving to bring some light and spiritual resources for living out of my darkness to my people, I am profoundly aware of the absolute demands of this sense of urgency for reality. People demand reality in our ministry to them. As a patient confined for several months in no less than seven hospitals in less than two years, I have had occasion to receive many visits by ministers of various denominations. I could not help but observe the attitudes they assumed, the words they spoke, and what they did. In the circumstances, nothing could be more disappointing than the discovery that the minister had not thought clearly nor felt deeply; that he offered easy and absolute Christian solutions to situations the tragic character of which was inescapable. Many times I felt how disappointed must the sheep of such shepherds be when, in the midst of sufferings involving death, they are offered cheap religious solutions by men who speak half-heartedly because they have not delved deeply into the experience of the sufferer.

Our people demand a religious ministry that actually does not conform to the realities of experience. In ministering to such situations, one must always be under the pressure of the insistent urge for reality. Men of such mood are desperately needed for the cause of the Kingdom; men who are driven by the urgency of a Christ who once commanded, "Let the dead bury their dead, but come thou and follow me."

Kansas Laymen's Fellowship

Chester Bidleman, President **Charles Armstrong, Sec-Treas.**

"Work For Church Laymen

Every organization of human beings, every moment of human activity, and every crusade launched in the interests of worthy causes in social, civic and religious reform, carries a definite amount of free riding, dead-wood and floaters. Every church has among its members altogether too many men who are reputed to carry their "religion in their wives's names."

Program for Men

The Congregational Christian Church Associations have a definite program designed to do something about all of that, known as the Laymen's Fellowship. This program holds that much of the constructive, basic and vital part of the church responsibility is work for men. The Laymen's Fellowship holds that men affiliate with the church with their eyes open; that they sense the importance of promoting good citizenship, adhering to the Golden Rule, and all of the teachings of the Son of Man in His Sermon on the Mount; that they believe in the fatherhood of God; that His laws are immutable; that the ultimate welfare of humanity depends upon the fidelity with which every day living is brought into harmony with these teachings; that faith in the benevolence of the plan of their Creator is essential as a guide to conduct and service to fellowmen.

Local Church - World-Wide

It is not enough that good men order their own lives in that faith. The Master's admonition is that the Gospel message of good tidings be carried by its sponsors throughout the world. Every church has places for every member to work; business to look after, official functions to be carried out, church school leadership, men's club activities, setting the example to others in faithful attendance at services, and keeping the light of your responsibilities shining for the benefit of those in distress, discouraged, ill and hungry for encouragement and companionship.

Big Business

The church is big business, and better church results are promoted by better financial strength. Certainly, that's a major job for men. Study your own church budget and that of your state conference and the world-wide program.

Take Invoice

One of the immediate tasks for the Laymen's Fellowship is to take invoice — help to transfer those taking a free ride in work of the Lord, into a living, forceful, devoted power. Ten percent success in this project would mean much additional strength right within your own circles, and that added force will be compounded as new incentives are generated and new opportunities for promoting God's plan in your church are developed.

Why not make this our first project?

By J. L. Napier, Chairman
Southern Association
Laymen's Fellowship

Kansas Women's Department

Mrs. E. C. Garrison, President

In Memory

As evidence of the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Department Memorial Roll of Honor.

Mrs. Lena Campbell

By Muscotah Women

Friendly Service

The following questions have been asked in letters and conversations. Will it help you to know the answers? Read them and see!

Q: What are you doing in Friendly Service in your church? Now, just what is Friendly Service?

A: You don't recall that it is our "plus" work? It is over and above what we give to O.C.W.M. and Woman's Gift. It is the extra work that changes labor to "labor of love" when we become aware of the need. We supply used clothing for thrift shops and for any of our stations requesting it. We give supplies to hospitals: we supply layettes — anything needed and requested by our missionaries. It is a broad field and every person in the church can help — even the little folks. No one need feel left out of this part of our program even those who can give only money which will help to pay postage. We first fill our quota assignment though. Yes, now I know. We do quite a bit of that kind of work.

Q: What is that "quota assignment" you mentioned?

A: Each State Secretary is sent a list of needs to be supplied by her state. She in turn divides the lists among the three Association Secretaries who then sends each Woman's Fellowship group its quota to fill.

Q: I remember now. But you know our group felt that last year's quota was a little too large for us to fill and Mrs. A. from O— said theirs was far too small and they would like to do more. How could this be straightened out?

A: By writing your Association Secretary. She will be glad to hear from you and give any help possible.

Q: Our group thinks it would be better to send money to the amount our assignment would cost, instead of buying the articles and sending them. Is this permissible?

A: Certainly. But when you have sent the money, send a card to your Association Secretary telling her that you have filled your quota and the amount involved just as you would if you had sent the gifts. Any quotas filled or any gifts sent which are not reported cut down our total state report to the National Secretary. Report everything!

Q: As I read of our wide field of service, I am aware that our group isn't as interested in the F.S. program of the church as it should be. Could you suggest something to create interest?

A: One of the best ways is to assign them a share in the work being done. The project committee has a big task and it can be extended to include a large number of women who can help collect, pack, arrange for boxes and transportation. Some women take pleas-

ure and pride in being on a "Box" committee. They take care of discarded clothing or other items which may be brought to their homes at any time of the year, so that everything has been properly stored and perhaps cleaned and mended and then are ready for the final work of distribution at any time they are needed.

Q: Do we send Christmas cards to you or do we send them direct?

A: Send them direct, but before you send, cut off all except the square with the picture. Please do not send Christmas cards which are pictures of Santa Claus or animals. Consult your secretary or postmaster before packing and labeling as you can sometimes save money for yourself and the recipient will not have to pay duty. Cards should be sent in small packages. There are dozens of places to send these and some are listed on the mimeographed sheet which went out with the quota lists.

Q: Scrapbooks — are they needed especially?

A: Certainly — and even very small books which go to the sick children in hospitals. Some work of this kind can begin early and be ready to go out at Christmas, although it can be a year around project for the books do wear out and later in the season there is nothing of the kind to help keep the children happy.

Now For Christmas

Q: The toys we send — do they have to be new?

A: No — but they should be good, and painted if they are faded.

Q: Should our gifts be gift-wrapped?

A: Not necessarily, but if they are please write on the package whether for a boy or a girl and for what age it is suitable. When left unwrapped, express wishes of the children may be met. But please include wrappings — paper and seals or ribbon; they need not be new.

Q: Thousands of gifts are probably needed, but will you mention a few places where they will be most needed?

A: 2500 or more are needed at Delmo, alone. These need not be limited to Christmas. If the gifts are clothing — there is always need at Cotton Valley School; East Harlem Protestant Parish; Ellis Island; Rev. Lois Joy Hartung, Box 234, Grants, New Mexico; and Ryder Memorial Hospital.

Q: Christmas gifts for our Parsonage families — can we supply some of those even though we may not have "adopted" a family?

A: Certainly — write to
Miss Marjory A. Martin
Friendly Service Secretary,
287 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Miss Martin will send sizes, needs, etc.

—By Gladys Ives (Mrs. W. R.)
Friendly Service Secretary

Scholarships Awarded

At a meeting of the Women's Department Board held during the Midwest meeting at Wichita, two scholarships were awarded to young men from Kansas preparing for Christian life service. Both are in the first year at the Chicago Theological Seminary. The Rev. Robert B. Nellis served our church at Udall while finishing his college work at Southwestern. A scholarship of $250.00 was sent to Mr. Nellis who has a wife and two children. The Paul Bockoven scholarship was awarded the Rev. George Hirst of Partridge who served our Plevna Church while attending Friends. Mr. Hirst writes:

Dear Friends of the Women's Department:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Elmer Erickson stating that I have been awarded The Paul Bockoven Memorial Scholarship. I am grateful to the Women's Department of the Kansas Conference for this award, for it will mean that a somewhat cramped budget will be relieved and that I will be able to do some things which will further my theological studies.

I am deeply touched by the fact that my friends in Kansas were kind enough to remember me and my family. We miss our native "Habitat" and the memories of warm friendships formed during our work in and among the churches there are much treasured. But, of course, the task which I have set before me must be carried out, so we must "sojourn" in Illinois.

I am at present serving Union Congregational Church in Moline, Ill., a small church which can only afford the salary of a student pastor. It is a hundred and fifty miles from Chicago, therefore quite a bit of carfare is needed each week. My work in the church is under the supervision of Dr. Walker Alderton, Field Director of the Seminary. This practical application of knowledge gained on the campus is very valuable indeed. Recently, my church observed its fiftieth anniversary and Dr. Alderton was present at the afternoon service and brought the message.

My wife and small son join me in extending greetings to our friends in Kansas. Again, my sincere thanks for the award. I assure you that it will be put to good use in my preparatory years here in Chicago.

Sincerely Yours,
George Hirst,
Chicago Theological Seminary

Miss Catton's Six-Lesson Program

Every member who joins our Fellowship is a missionary. If you have not used this series, you are really missing an opportunity. May be obtained from Pilgrim Press, 19 S. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill. Send 25 cents for leader's packet.

The Minister Observes

About a year ago a young boy was brought here from Germany to live with one of our families. I remember the first Sunday I met him. I spoke a few words in German to him and he was delighted. Now it is difficult for him to express himself in German. Because, he lives in the atmosphere of well spoken English, he takes hold of it readily. Some years ago Yale University announced that it would teach languages only by speaking the language. So we best become Christian, not by memorizing rules, but by living in the atmosphere where religious experience is deepened.

—Rev. Reuben R. Trickey,
from The Visitor

Ministry of Love

The Junior Department of the Church School at Kansas City Rosedale, recently gave a carnival at which they raised $154.00 The money was used to help purchase a wheel chair for Mrs. Helen Puntenny who has been a partial invalid all her life.

Severy

Though this church has not had pastoral leadership for many years, the women still carry on. At their Harvest Home Sale and Chicken Dinner this fall they cleared $70.00 for their church.

Kansas Pilgrim Fellowship

Roger Brown, President — **Mike Walker, Secretary**

Plan Now For Youth Week

"So Send I You" is the theme for Youth Week January 31-February 7, 1954. We are living in a century when Christians are becoming increasingly concerned about the purpose of the Church. Christian young people share greatly in this concern. Youth Week has a history and a purpose, and is designed to give young people a concentrated period in which they can declare their common faith and express it in planning and action. "So Send I You" challenges youth to discover their responsibilities as Christian citizens and to strengthen and enrich their activities toward building world brotherhood in their own communities. This is a part of our Christian Fellowship Commission.

Planning Retreat

How about a planning retreat during your Christmas Vacation period to make plans for observing Youth Week this year? This can be an outstanding period for the entire year's program. You will need a Youth Week packet at 50 cents which includes the following items. Each of the items may be secured singly or in quantity at the price listed from the Department of Publications, National Council of Churches, 79 E. Adams Street, Chicago 3, Ill.

Youth Week Manual (15¢) a guide for the entire week.

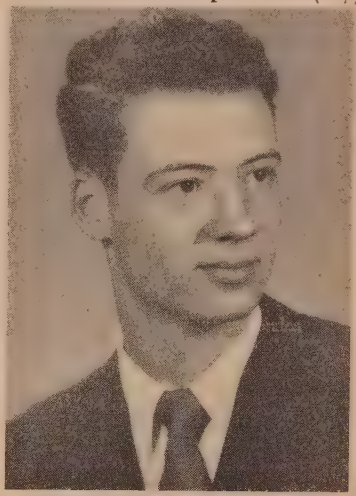
Youth Week Poster (15¢) for display in church, school store, etc.

Radio Play (20¢) a 15-minute skit "Will You Listen".

Denominational Worship Service ($2.50 per 100) to be used Jan. 31 in morning or evening service.

Community Worship Service ($2.50 per 100) to be used February 7.

Guide for Worship Service (10¢)



MIKE WALKER, Hutchinson
PF State Secretary

This is the second consecutive year our state secretary has hailed from Hutchinson. In addition to being active in PF Mike is a Senior in high school and is interested in photography and newspaper work.

Senior State Rally Report

Uncle George Fisk states the reservation list for the Senior Rally at Wichita Fairmount November 6-7 was the largest in KPF history. There were over 250 planning to attend but blizzard conditions cut it to a final count of 211. The young people of the local church in charge of housing and the women who served the delicious meals are to be congratulated upon the ex-

cellent services extended and their cordial hospitality. All KPFers wish to express their heartiest thanks.

Christian Action

Here is a report as we go to press on Work Day for Christ money received. This will go toward our $2100 goal for 1953-54 and is over and above the pledge from your group. If your church is not listed perhaps you have not yet sent in your money.

Garden City	$85.00	Osborne	$55.50
Gorham	6.75	Russell	27.75
Great Bend	25.00	Topeka:	
Haven	46.00	Central	42.14
Hutchinson	28.00	First	33.25
K. C.		Seaman	9.65
Ruby	35.00	Whitewater	41.45
Welborn	56.00	Wichita:	
Kiowa	25.00	Fairmount	17.21
Lenora	52.00	Plymouth	15.00
McPherson	23.50		
Newton	8.50	TOTAL	$632.70

Youth Fellowship Program No. 4

"Crossroad Decisions" by Rev. Henry R. Rust, our National Secretary of Youth Work, will serve as an invaluable guide for Senior Highs in planning worthwhile programs. There is an introduction "It's Up To You!" you will not want to miss.

Central On The Job

Topeka Central PFers took Aunt Ruth up on her suggestion of selling Congregational Kansas and have made this our main Christian Action project for this month. Each PFer is taking a list of member's names and asking them to buy a subscription. Kids take orders after church and one Sunday got 25 subscriptions.

Each Sunday a PFer instead of a sponsor, plans the service and gives the meditation. In this way everybody gets experience planning a service.

—Sally Mack, Secretary

News Around The State

Eastern - Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shanker, Jr., are the new sponsors of both PF groups at **K. C. Welborn.**

Wolfdieter Kuttner, German Exchange Student, was the guest speaker at **Topeka Central's** meeting Nov. 22 They have been studying about our German Youth Center project.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Haun are sponsors for **Topeka Seabrook** Seniors. PFers enough to fill two large hayracks enjoyed a ride in late October.

Miss Rheinette Howell is sponsor for **K.C. Rosedale** Pilgrims. They sponsored a bake sale for Work Day for Christ.

Southern - Mr. and Mrs. William Hurst are new sponsors for Senior **Wichita Pilgrim** PFers. The Junior Hi's had a paper drive Nov. 21. Jo Humeston was chairman. Both groups met with the **Wichita Fairmount** group Nov. 22 to hear a piano concert by Mr. Albert Faurot.

Whitewater Junior Hi's divided into five teams of three each and took orders for monogrammed paper napkins for their Work Day for Christ project.

Western - Senior Pilgrims at **Great Bend** sponsored a chili supper in early November.

A tri-area rally composed of **Ellis, Gorham and Russell** met November 29. Gorham led recreation; Russell, a discussion and table singing and Ellis, worship. A chili supper was served.

Osborne PFers packed a Thanksgiving basket at their November 22 meeting. Ann Gregory led the worship service. Their minister reports they had the best WorkDay for Christ this year they have had yet. Even though the group is smaller more than $50 was received from odd jobs.

Have You Sent In Your Christian Action Pledge?

Christian Education

Pauline Bloomer, Director

A Christmas Prayer

Dear God, we thank thee
For flickering candles,
And fragrant evergreens,
At this glad Christmas time;
For the much loved Carols,
The beautiful paintings of the masters;
But most of all, dear God,
We thank thee for family and friends
At Christmas time.
May we find ways to share
Our joy and gladness
With thy children everywhere.
—Source unknown.

"Tricks or Pennies"

On Halloween night seventy primary and junior children at Kansas City Rosedale met at the church and were organized into small teams with one or two adults for each team. Instead of soliciting the usual "tricks or treats" they asked for pennies to help buy milk for hungry children in other parts of the world. This was the suggested October Project of the Month. A letter was sent by the minister to the city commissioners for permission to receive monetary gifts and the community was divided into districts in the area of the public school and church. Junior children left a sheet announcing their plan at every home to be called on. Radio, T.V. and newspapers carried stories and announcements so the people visited might be well informed. Prior to the visits to homes interested people were calling to report approval and interest in the project. More adults reported to sponsor a team than could be used. When the children returned with a total of $80.23 they were entertained with a party which included games, a film and refreshments. Parents who were not home are still sending in their contributions. Congratulations on a job well done! (Incidentally, it took half a day to count the pennies.)

A Review of Pilgrim Series

Pilgrim Series is now in its second cycle. It has continued to meet the needs of teachers and parents and is in increasing demand. It is unique in many ways and several distinguishing features are listed:

1. There is a common quarterly theme for all departments, although each department has a separate course suited to the age group.
2. Family co-operation and All-Church Projects. Home and church work together. Age-group reading books, family books and All-Church Project plan are provided.
3. A Program Manual is for leaders. The manual is indispensable and includes the following: Suggestions for administering the entire church school for three months. Complete outlines for teachers' conferences. Services of worship for each Sunday, including stories and superintendent's talks. Ways in which home and church may cooperate. Seasonal programs and Parents' Class materials.

"The Church Around The World"

This is the new color filmstrip for the Winter Quarter. Pictures of our mission stations at home and overseas portrays the world-wide work of Our Christian World Mission. Available for loan from State Conference.

"Congorekans"

The Eureka Church is proud of its growing young adult group by the above name. They have been organized for nearly two years during which time they met socially once a month the first year. They then decided to have a Sunday morning class in connection with it. The group wanted some bible study and needed someone to act as moderator. They did not want a regular teacher as they wanted to take turns in teaching. A committee was appointed with Mr. W. I. Boone as moderator. The minister advised them in selecting a course of study which is "Know Your Bible Series" by Roy L. Smith. There are twelve books in the series. At present they are studying Book 4 — "Refugees Who Wrote Scripture." They now have thirty couples on the roll with an average attendance of ten couples. A large portion of this group are regular church members. A nursery is provided during this time, as well as for the church service. They continue to have a party once a month. The name Congorekan is a combination of Eureka and Congregational and officers in addition to the moderator are Mr. Clayton Bailey, president and Mr. Harold Black, Secretary-Treas. This group has given new life to the Eureka Church.

—reported by Mrs. W. I. Boone

"Each With His Own Brush"

This is a lovely color filmstrip with recorded script (78 RPM). It is especially suitable during the Christmas Season. It carries beautiful art reproductions from several different cultures. Available upon request from State Conference. Youth-Adults.

New Nursery Manual

Miss Mary E. Venable has just completed a new manual entitled "The Church School Nursery Class". This is not curriculum material for teaching but is an excellent guide for determining the needs of the nursery age group. Order from Pilgrim Press.

"The Children's Hour"

Beginning November 14 the K.C. Rosedale Church started sponsoring this activity for children of the community. Each Saturday morning there is a period of songs, music, educational and religious films. In order to cover expenses there is a 10 cent admission fee. The film "Fears of Children" was especially selected for parents and deals with problems connected with fear. This program is to help supplement the Week Day Church School which has not been provided this year.

Resources For Next Quarter

The items listed below are available for loan from Conference Office and will be helpful in teaching Pilgrim Series Courses and world friendship.

Books

Tell Me About Jesus, Jones
A Picture Book of Palestine, Smither
Once There Was a Little Boy, Kunhardt
The Thirsty Village, Blatter
We Gather Together, McGavran
The Church of Our Fathers, Bainton

Flat Pictures

World Friends at Work and Worship
Children at Worship

Slides and Records

Jiro and Hanako of Japan
Home Missions Album (records)

GIVE TO THE CHRISTMAS FUND for the VETERANS OF THE CROSS

King of Bazaar's

Lawrence Plymouth cleared more than $4000.00 at their annual bazaar held on November 11. More than 600 people were served at the noon luncheon. Booths representing the planning and work of a whole year brought high praise from all who attended.

A New Organ

The Rev. John Schlarb of Downs reports that the church recently voted to buy a new Wurlitzer organ which adds greatly to the Sunday services of worship. More than $900.00 in cash had already been given toward the purchase price.

Harvest Home Festival

At Almena the 24th Annual Festival was held on October 25 and 26. Mr. E. C. Wedell of Great Bend, Kansas Chairman of the Church Loan Fund brought the Sunday morning message on the theme of our Congregational heritage. At the festival on Monday $750.00 was cleared.

Wakefield

A week of Evangelism worked out cooperatively by the Methodist Church and our church was climaxed on Sunday evening, November 22 with a message from the Rev. Wm. F. Keeney, Chairman of the Conference Evangelism Committee.

Kiowa

Things are looking up under the leadership of the Rev. and Mrs. M. C. Dorsett. Alphabet Coffees held each Sunday evening at the church with Von and Mel Dorsett as hosts have created fine fellowship and resulted in worthwhile church planning.

Fall Festival A Success

Not so much because of the money cleared, reports the Rev. Louis Poppe, but more because of the fellowship. A farmer was chief cook, a miller was pancake mixer, a mill operator was dishwasher, a school superintendent was meat fryer, an electrician was boss. The two biggest things were: we all did things together — youngsters and oldsters all had a part. We closed the whole day with a worship service when all 85 who had been present for the auction found their way to the sanctuary to give gratitude to God.

Generous Offering

Offerings for the work of Miss Lillian Picken who spoke at Osborne on November 1 and 2 totalled $261.68. Miss Picken spoke four times on Sunday. On Monday at a Women's meeting guests from Stockton, Smith Center and Downs were invited. An open meeting was held at the high school Monday evening. The offerings taken are to purchase a motorcycle for Miss Picken's foster son for use as he ministers to 35 villages.

Oyster Supper

The good old fashioned kind — was served by the men of our Centralia Church on November 12. The committee in charge was: Ernest Hightower, Ray Ward and Ralph Most.

United Student Fellowship

Joan Harding, Secretary of Manhattan USF reports activities and program well under way for this year. They started October 4 with an impressive candlelight worship service led by Janice Farmer and June Simpson. Foreign students have helped in bringing international interest. Featured speakers included Dr. C. M. Correll and the Rev. Louis Bender.

The Charles Holbrook Library
Pacific School of Religion
1708 Scenic Ave.
Berkeley 9, Calif.

"A POSITIVE ATTITUDE"

As many of you know this Fall I have been visiting many of our churches in the state as a part of the Centennial Caravan. On each of these visits besides speaking at a dinner meeting, it has also been my privilege to meet with members of the board of trustees or other church officers. It has been noticeable that it is a fairly common trait for church people to concentrate on their own problems and to consider themselves somewhat unique. Unfortunately, this reaction is not usually in terms of a positive attitude of what their church has done and can do but rather it takes a negative expression of why certain things can't be done in their particular situation. Thus it becomes easy to give reasons why more can't be done for the church school or benevolences or the church building loan fund.

We all need a more positive attitude towards life in general and our church in particular. Instead of seeing only the hole in the doughnut and thinking of what can't be done, we need to think of what can be done. The church people of America are challenged by tremendous opportunities. With proper facilities in the next decade more children can be reached in our church schools than have ever been reached before. Around the world there are great opportunities for service. People need what the church has to offer and our response to the challenge should be positive.

As your pastor, may I express a grateful word to the members of this congregation that we have not been too much beset by a negative attitude. The response of our men on Loyalty Sunday was positive and cooperative. In two and one-half days, 95 per cent of our calls had been completed. That's a remarkable record. May our outlook always remain positive and helpful.

—Ray C. Jones,
From First Church Echo